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PROCEEDINGS OF THE ... ANNUAL SESSION
1916

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Farmers' State Alliance of North Carolina

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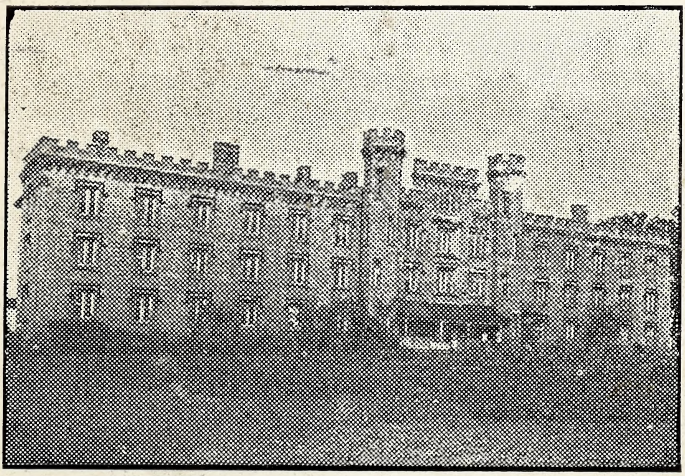
PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRTIETH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE FARMERS STATE ALLIANCE OF NORTH CAROLINA.



Held at their Headquarters Near
Hillsboro, Orange County, N. C.
August 8th, & 9th, 1916.

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Thirtieth Annual Session

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Held at their Headquarters, near Hillsboro, Orange County, N. C., August 8th and 9th, 1916.

The North Carolina Farmers State Alliance met in its regular annual meeting at their head quarters near Hillsboro in Orange County, N. C., at 12 o'clock noon.

President M. P. Eadwards being absent, Vice President John C. Bain of Wade, Cumberland County, N. C. took the gaval and called the Alliance to order.

The Alliance engaged in singing America and P. C. Callwell of Goldsboro led in a tender appeal to our Heavenly Father for His guidance and the Alliance was then opened in due ritualistic form. President Bain declaring the 30th annual session of this body opened and ready for the transaction of its business.

The following counties responded to the roll call:

Alamance—J. H Tate and H. M. Cates.
Bertie—S. W. Kenny and W. L. Baker.
Cumberland—W. R. Williams and Wm. Cock.
Edgecombe—J. A. Brake and J. L. Cherry.
Guilford—D. A. Montgomery and Geo T. Lane.
Lenoir—George F. Parrott.
Johnston—Moses Creech and W. A. T. Durham.
Orange—P. M. Sykes and J. R. Sykes.
Sampson—J. A. Baggett.
Wilson—J. A. McKeel.

Wayne—J. M. Mitchell.

Warren—John Graham and J. A. Sheperd.

The Chair appointed J. H. Evans, P. C. Callwell, H. M. Cates and Moses Creech committee on credentials. The committee retired, and soon returned and reccomended the seating of all delegates as enrolled. Report adopted.

In the absence of the following officers George F. Parrott selected for Vice President, Pro tem. Bro. P. C. Callwell Chaplain, Pro tem. and J. A. McLauren Stewart Pro tem. Adjourned for dinner.

Afternoon Session

At 2:30 P. M. re-assembled. The President announced the following committee on Constitution and By-laws: Moses Creech H. H. Thompson and R. D. Trevathan

On Business Agency: S. J. McLauren, W. L. Baker, J. H. Tate and C. F. Cates.

On Education, Prof. John Graham, S. W. Kenny and J. M. Mitchell.

On Lecturing, H. H. Thompson, George F. Parrott, J. J. Pitman and J. A. Brake.

On Legislation, J. L. Cherry, H. E. Thompson, and J. M. Mitchell.

Presidents Address

President then delivered his address as follows: Brethren we are thankful that we have been permitted to meet in this our 30th Annual Session.

We congratulate the Sub Alliance that have furnished Delegates to compose this body, it is evidence there is continued faith in our order and especially so when we have considered that there has practically no Lecture work been done during the year, also we have had no aid whatever through the medium of printers ink. It is gratifying and encouraging however to find from our Secretary's books an increase of membership over last year.

As we look back through the past 30 years history of our order we of course have made mistakes, have realized that we have made mistakes, we would not have been mortal had we not. But we have cause for rejoicing over some of our successes. We were the first Brotherhood to declare for State wide prohibition, no religious denomination can claim this honor. Nearly every legislative demand made by our order in both State and Nation in years past has been inacted into law. We have accomplished untold good among the Farmers educationlly. We have developed a better State, mentally, socially, morally and financially. Nor is the work done? Nay this is a progressive age, and the probability is the work and necessity for our organization will be greater the next 30 years than in the past.

I recommend that you give the subject of reorganizing and building up your order your best thought and attention. If the plan we have now is the best we can devise. It should be executed more affectually.

Model Communities

We are pleased to note the interest manifested in our State in the establishing of model communities and my information is that North Carolina enjoys the distinction of having established the first one in the United States. This is a work it seems to me the Sub Alliance in the different sections of the State could embrace and make interesting and profitable to their communities.

Public Education

We should feel proud of the progress of Public Education in our State since our State meeting held 27 years ago in Asheville, when we declared emphatically for more tax money for Public School purposes and a better public college education for boys and girls alike. Yet we feel sure many needed improvments can be made in our State pub'ic School System. We note a growing sentiment among the people in favor of our county boards of Education and Superintendents being elected by the voters of each county. Also we hear a good deal of complaint

of text books for our schools. There is no necessity for so many changes unless the changes should be improved upon for these often changes cause needless loss to patrons. These things will be remedied we hope in the next legislature.

Farmers Loan Law

We welcome such a law of our nation though we do not believe in its present form it will meet the entire need of our farmers, yet it is the best that has ever been offered us. We recommend that a committee be appointed at this meeting to co-operate with a like committee from the Farmers Union in doing every thing possible to secure one of these Federal Loan Banks in the city of Raleigh, N. C.

Good Roads

This is a question of much importance to us and should receive our hearty support. Our city brother has since the introduction of automobiles become as much interested as we.

We have learned much in recent years and there is still much to be learned, much about building and maintaining public roads on an economical scale. In my opinion the Sand Clay roads are the cheapest and best roads we have.

Home Supplies

I notice with pleasure our farmers have been growing gradually out of the one money crop system and we have marched out some faster since our cotton experiences in 1914.

As farmers we should strive to produce an abundance of home supplies and let our surplus crops be diversified money crops.

This accomplished we will be a happier and a more prosperous people.

Hoping that all who attend this meeting will have a pleasant time and that our meetings will prove profitable to us all and a great revival of our beloved order may be accomplished

through ensuing years. I am Fraternally yours

J. C. Bain.

On motion the address was ordered published and spread upon our minutes.

Report of Secretary

To the North Carolina Farmers State Alliance, greetings. I bring to you. I am happy to report to you at this your 30th, Annual Session. You have been dead for years. But for some cause you have struggled and toiled and kept alive and to day you stand on higher ground.

I am encouraged in the prospect of your noble order. Our receipts show a slight gain over last year. Notwithstanding the handycap of our lecturer, not being able to work for the want of means, yet the Brethren have stood true, save in one county, the name of which I need not mention. And some counties have gained. Our receipts for last year was $135.55. This year there are $154.30 a gain of $18.75.

I told you a year ago that new life was coming into our order, these receipts veryfy this statement. I want to ask you to have strong faith, abiding hope, enduring courage, and filial love, and work with an enthusiam that knows no failure and the banner of your order will rise and shine for the eternal year of God, our hero.

Respectfully submitted

J. H. Evans, Sec. Treas.

Report of Executive Committees

Brethern of The North Carolina State Alliance, your executive committee would respectfully report that they have examined the report of your trustee, Bro. H. E. Thompson, and find the same correct. Showing a balance in cash $371.42. Amount of North Carolina bonds $7000.00.

We find that our Business Agent, Bro. J. H. Evans has increased his business a small sum. And that he has reduced his indebtedness to the Alliance by his services and sale of property until he now owes $276.67. To secure this indebtedness your trustee H. E. Thompson holds a mortgage on one mule, one horse and two wagons. This indebtedness will also be reduced by the expenses of the State meeting. Respt. submitted.

John Graham, Chairman.

Trustees Report

Stantonburg, N. C. Aug. 1st 1916.

Brethren:- I herewith submit my report for the year ending Aug. 1st 1916. As follows:

Aug. 1, 1915 Balance including $7,000.00 in N. C. Bonds			$7,718.15
Aug. 11, 1915 interest received on bonds			$280.00
April 1st 1916 part pay on J. H. Evans			65.50
July 15th, 1916, int., on bonds to July 1st, 1916,			140.00
Aug. 13, 1915 paid J. H. Evans, S. B. A.	$300.00		
Oct. 15 1915, " J. H. Evans, S. B. A.	200.00		
July 1, 1916, " E. G. Deans, safety bx.rent	3.00		
Jan. 17, 1916 " Trustee salary	100.00		
Jan. 26, 1916 " P. C. Callwell, Ex. com.	6.10		
Jan. 26, 1916 " C. F. Cates " "	2.50		
Jan. 26, 1916 " John Graham " "	10.00		
Jan. 29, 1916 " H. E. Thompson "	9.50		
Mar. 13, 1916 " C. E. Johnson, Jr. Insur.	22.00		
April 6, 1916 " G. W. Stanton trustee bnd.	35.00		
April 24, 1916 " R. D. Bain, for taxes.	60.35		
June 10, 1916 " C. Strayhorn, Court cost.	83.78		
Aug. 1st 1916 " To Bonds on hand.	700.00		
Aug. 1st 1916 " To cash on hand.	371.42		
Totals		$8,203.65	$8,203.65.

Respectfully Submitted,

H. E. Thompson, Trustee.

Resolution No. 1, Your committee on resolutions beg to submit the following to the State Alliance, that we sell the State Alliance property through a committee of three elected by this State Alliance now in session. Said committee first select and secure an option on a lot that shall be a suitable home for the North Carolina Farmers State Aliance.

Resolution No. 2, That said committee after taking option on a suitable property shall sell the State Alliance property at Hillsboro, N. C.. at a satisfactory price and apply same or as much thereof as be necessary to pay for a lot and erect a suit-

able building there on. H. M. Cates, J. M. Mitchell, J. A. Baggett and W. L. Baker, Committee.

Resolution discussed by H. M. Cates, J. L. Cherry, J. M. Mitchell, J. C. Bain, J. A. McKeel, John Graham, J. A. Davis and adopted. Brothers H. E. Thompson, H. M. Cates and J. A. McLauren were then elected to carry out the above recommendations. A committee consisting of J. L. Cherry, J. M. Mitchell and H. E. Thompson to recommend legislation for this body was appointed. Adjourned to 8:00 o'clock p. m.

Evening Session

At 8:00 o'clock re-assembled.

Resolution No. 3 Resolved that the committee, H. E. Thompson. H. M. Cates and J. A. McLauren after securing an option on a suitable sight and determining the character of the building to be erected, shall submit the same in connection with the price offered for Headquarters, to the various Sub Alliances for their approval at October meeting. Adopted.

Committee on Farm Loan Banks

Committee on Farm Loan Bank to confer with like committee of the F. E. and C. U. of A. was appointed as follows, C. F. Cates, of Alamance County, J. A. Baggett of Sampson County and George F. Parrott of Lenoir County.

The Alliance at this hour held Memoral services for their departed dead who had passed off since their last State meeting, as follows, J. N. Mercer and Joshua Brake of Edgecombe County, A. F. Sykes and James V. Jones of Orange County. Fitting remarks were made by the chaplain, P. C. Callwell, followed by H. M. Cates, J. M. Mitchell, G. F. Parrott, J. L. Cherry, John Graham, R. D. Trevathan and J. C. Bain.

Committee on By-Laws and Rules submitted the following as their report. We recommend that no change be made in

Constitution and By Laws.

H. H. Thompson, for the Committee.

Resolution No. 4, Resolved that the Farmers State Alliance now in session at their headquarters do recommend Raleigh, N. C., as suitable place and recommend the movement to locate a Regional Farm Loan Bank in our capital city, and our committee be instructed to present the claims of the Alliance for the location of said Bank at Raleigh, N. C.

Committee's Report on Legislation

We your committee on Legislation do hereby recommend the following: 1st That the crop Lien Law be repealed. 2nd That We oppose any change in our present rate of interest and insist upon the enforcement of our 6% rate. 3rd That we urge the enforcement of laws tending toward equalization of taxes.

J. L. Cherry
H. E. Thompson
J. M. Mitchell

Morning Session

Wednesday Aug. 9th 1916 at 8:30 A. M. President J. C. Bain called the Alliance to order and opened in due form.

An obituary committee for the State was appointed, as follows, State Chaplain Chairman P. C. Callwell, H. M. Cates, Moses Creech. Bro. S. W. Kenny, of Bertie County Alliance, Editor of the Windsor Ledger, was introduced and welcomed in to the order. A motion was made to adopt his paper, The Windsor Ledger, as our paper. Remarks were made by W. L. Baker, J. H. Evans, J. M. Mitchell, J. C. Bain, J. L. Cherry, H. M. Cates, H. E. Thompson and J. A. Davis. Motion to amend to make H. M. Cates the Alliance correspondent or press agent.

The motion as amended was adopted.

Report of Committee on Education

Your committee on Education would respectfully report

That the people of North Corolina have a right to rejoice in the great improvement in the Educational advantages of the people of the State. Especially in the close relation now established between the people and our great University and Colleges. We would, however recommend the Supt. of Public Instruction and the Board of Education in the various counties be elected by the people. We disapprove changes in our text books unless absolutely necessary. An increase in the salaries of our teachers is desirable and that fewer subjects be taught in our one teacher schools.

John Graham
John Mitchell } Committee.
S. W. Kenny,

Adopted as reported.

Committee's Report on Lecturing

Your committee on Lecturing beg to submit the following: That in our opinion the State Lecturer is the most important office of the State Alliance at this time when we are so much in need of members. Therefore we recommend that our State Lecturer be kept in the field not less than a hundred days and any further time he can spare from his private business. And we further recommend that his per diem be not less than $3.00 per day and expenses during the time that he is in our service. We recommend that the Executive committee be authorized to employ an additional organizer or assistant Lecturer to work under the direction of the State Lecturer.

H. H. Thompson } Committee
W. L. Baker

Report adopted.

Committee's Report on Business Agency

Your committee on business agency beg to recommed that

we leave vacant the office of Business Agent. And we further recommend that the Executive committee be instructed to authorize the Trustee to Loan to one county not to exceed $300.00 or to a group of counties not to exceed $500.00 for the use of Business Agents upon proper indorsement or security.

S. J. McLaurin
C. F. Cates } Committee
W. L. Baker

On motion of Bro. J. M. Mitchell the Alliance went into the election of officers for the ensuing year Officers elected as follows:

J. M. Mitchell, Goldsboro, N. C. President.

S. W. Kenny, Windsor, N. C. Vice President.

J. C. Bain, Wade, N. C. Sec. & Treas.

H. M. Cates, Graham, N. C. Lecturer.

J. A. Baggett, Cooper, N. C Chaplain.

O. F. White, Colerain, N. C. Steward.

Geo. T. Lane, Greensboro, N. C. Door Keeper.

H. H. Thompson, Hillsboro, N. C. Assistant D. K.

W. L. Baker, Windsor, N. C. Member of Executive Committee.

Adjourned for dinner.

Afternoon Session

The Alliance reassembled and sang "What a friend we have in Jesus" and Bro. J. A. Baggett led in prayer. On motion Bro. J. L. Cherry, C. F. Cates and J. A. Baggett were appointed a standing legislative committee. The officers for the ensuing year were duly arranged and J. H. Evans installed them in their respective offices.

Resolution, Resolved that the president shall go in person to Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Evans and tender them our thanks for the entertainment given us at this meeting.

C. F. Cates.

Resolution adopted.

H. M. Cates, State Lecturer came on the stand and delivered to the delight of all, his Annual Lecture. The Alliance then engaged in singing, "Blest be the tie that binds" and the Benediction was pronounced by our worthy chaplain.

Thus closing the 30th, Annual Session of The North Carolina, Farmers State Alliance.

J. C. Bain, President.

J. H. Evans, Secretary.

Post Office Address of Officers

President, J. M. Mitchell, Goldsboro, N. C.
Vice President, S. W. Kenny, Windsor, N. C.
Secretary and Treasurer, J. C. Bain, Wade, N. C.
Chaplain, J. A. Baggett, Cooper, N. C.
Lecturer, H. M. Cates, Graham, N. C.
Trustee, H. E. Thompson, Stantonsburg, N. C.
Chm. of Ex. Committee, John A. Davis, Tarboro, N. C.

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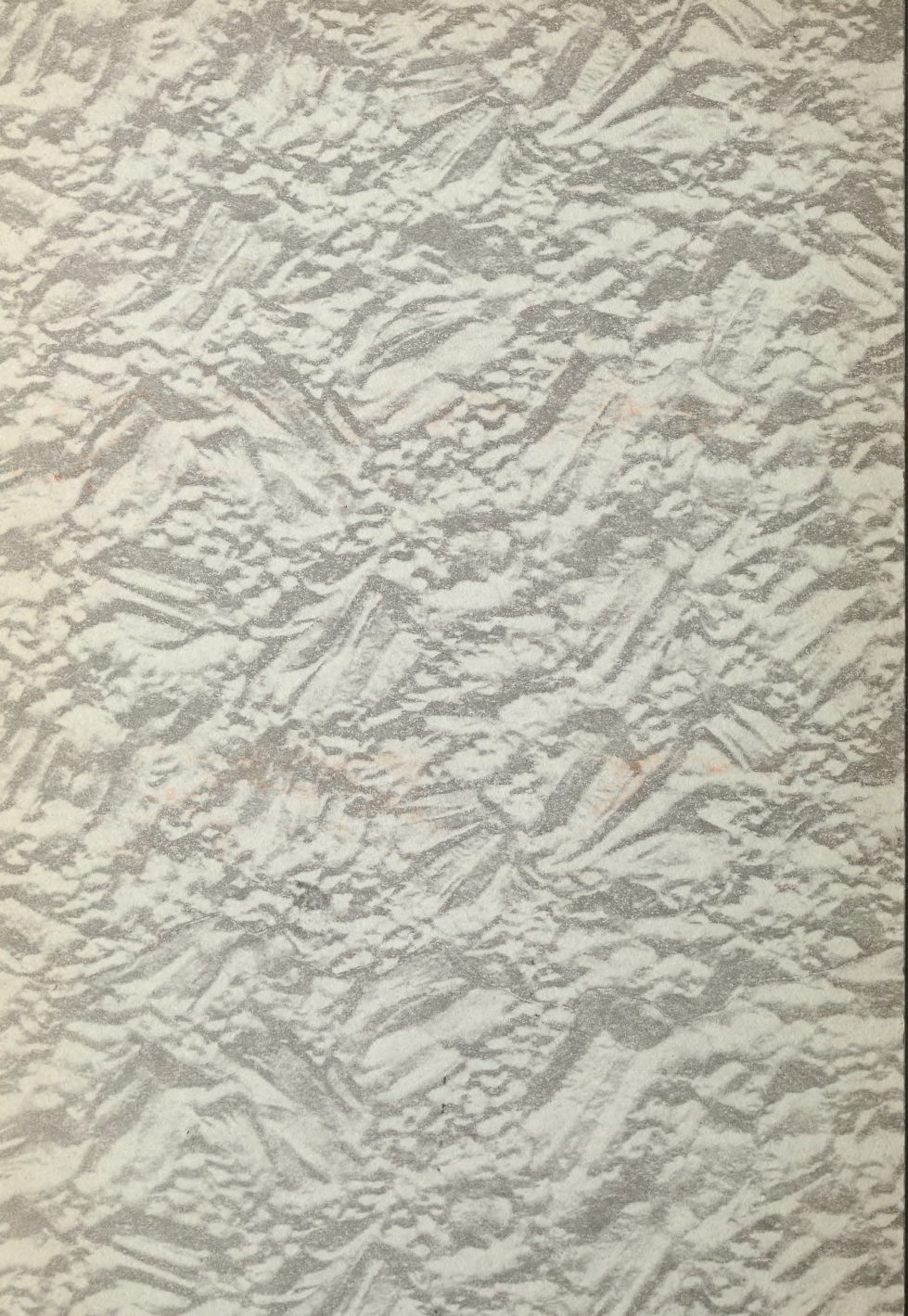
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